

(REUTER'S TELEGRAMS)

FRANCE AND DAHOMEY.
PARIS, June 18.—The Official Journal today publishes a note announcing that the Government has decided to blockade the coast of Dahomey, in order that no more arms and ammunition may reach King Behanzin through the foreign houses at Whydah.

M. DRUMONT AND THE MAGISTRATES.

PARIS, June 18.—A rumour was current yesterday at the Palais de Justice that proceedings were to be taken against M. Drumont for instigating the magistrates in his last article in *Le Libre Parole*. M. Laguerre and the Marquis de Mores have appointed arbitrators, who will meet this evening to discuss the quarrel between their principals.

SCENE AT A BULLFIGHT.

A MAYOR PELTED AND PUNCHED.
OTTAWA, June 16.—The reports of the tenant farmer delegates who visited the maritime provinces have been presented to Parliament. Mr. Davy, in his statement, gives a favourable account of the district, but Mr. M'Queen says that he cannot recommend emigration to those provinces until Canada secures unrestricted reciprocity with the United States. Accompanying the report is a statement by some Scotchmen, settled in Nova Scotia, speaking in high praise of the country and its resources.

to the effect that the rebel soldiers under Gen. Guerra have captured La Guayra, and seized a large quantity of arms and ammunition belonging to the Government. The residents in that district have declared against President Palacio. At Ocumare the inhabitants who have revolted against the dictator have despatched a force of 600 volunteers to Gen. Guerra's army. The Government general in command of the Plaza at Ocumare, has seized the opportunity to proclaim his allegiance to Gen. Crespo. The cause of the revolt in the Ocumare colony is that the inhabitants settled on their free lands granted by past Governments, enjoying special privileges and living in peace and happiness, suddenly found themselves, on the accession of Palacio to power, deprived of their privileges. A despotic and ignorant governor annulled the concessions which had been granted, increased the tribute to the State, forced all able-bodied men to join the national army, made servants of the rest, forbade the farmers to carry their produce direct to Caracas, and forced them to make their purchases through him.

MARITIME PROVINCES OF CANADA.
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HOMICIDE ON AN ATLANTIC STEAMER.
THE HAGUE, June 16.—Judgment was delivered this morning in the appeal lodged by Capt. Baker against the sentence of one year's imprisonment passed upon him last March for killing a mutinous stoker on board the Transatlantic steamer *Obdam*. The public prosecutor had demanded that the sentence should be increased to four years. The court of appeal, however, acquitted the captain of the charge of homicide, and sentenced him to three months' imprisonment for cruelty towards the deceased.

FRANCE AND DAHOMEY.
PARIS, June 16.—At a Cabinet Council held this morning M. Cavagnac, Minister of Marine, communicated a despatch from Col. Dodds, commanding the French troops in Dahomey, announcing the return to Kotonou of the three Frenchmen who, after being kept prisoners in Whydah, were released in exchange for Dahomeyan hostages.

THE STRIKES IN SPAIN.

CHICAGO, June 17.—During a storm here yesterday evening some fifty persons took refuge in the corridors of the Grant Monument, Lincoln Park. Shortly afterwards the lightning struck the monument, taking its course through the people collected inside. Everybody was thrown to the ground, two men and one woman being killed and other persons seriously injured. The damage done to the monument was trifling.

AN AUSTRALIAN THEATRE BURNED.

SYDNEY, June 17.—A fire broke out early this morning at the Theatre Royal here. The auditorium was completely gutted, but the stage was untouched. Mrs. Bernard Beere's wardrobe was saved.

FOUR ITALIANS LYNCHED.

SEATTLE (WASHINGTON), June 17.—John Nelson, foreman of a gang of Italian labourers on the Monte Cristo Railroad, at Sedro, Washington, was attacked yesterday by four Italians and killed, being struck down with an iron bar. The friends of Nelson, and, in the presence of 150 of their countrymen, lynched them.

FIGHTING IN VENEZUELA.

HEAVY GOVERNMENT LOSSES.

NEW YORK, June 17.—The *Herald* to-day publishes the following telegram from Bolivar, Venezuela:—A general engagement was fought on Tuesday between the Government troops and the insurgents. The losses were heavy on both sides, but there was no decisive result. Fighting was resumed next morning, and President Palacio's troops were defeated with great slaughter, being forced to retreat, leaving many dead and wounded behind them. The rebels are now marching upon Bolivar, which they are sanguine of re-taking.

THE RAVACHOL TRIAL.

PARIS, June 16.—M. Lagassé, the barrister who is to defend Ravachol at his approaching trial, is reported to have declined in the course of an interview that, although he has not seen the prisoner since his removal from Paris, he believes that his mind, which has, in his opinion, been well balanced, may have been further unhinged since his incarceration. This view is based on the fact that he has received numerous letters from Great Britain. An outbreak of a serious character is reported from Corayal, a few leagues from La Guayra, the report being that a revolt by the populace against the federal authorities had resulted in the shooting of many Militia soldiers. Telegrams from Cumano, Venezuela, state that a friend of Gen. Crespo, the revolutionary leader, arrived there yesterday from Caracas. He left the capital on the 10th and brought intelligence of the progress of the revolution up to the day of his departure. On the 9th inst. according to his report, President Palacio, learning an uprising of the rebels, ordered a police raid upon a number of mercantile establishments. The officers found a large quantity of firearms, ammunition, and guns, which they confiscated. The president, disappointed at his failure to raise a new loan from Paris, is alleged to have set his emissaries to work to extort money from the people of Caracas. He has confiscated all the cattle and horses, and is seizing whatever he can find. A British warship which recently visited Tucacas compelled the insurgents to abandon a steamer they had seized which belonged to the railway company. The commander of the Government warship *Asuncion* has handed the vessel over to the insurgents and has tendered them the services of himself and crew. Sonor Kogorau has left Trinidad, and has gone to the Dutch Island of Curacao to take over the warships which have been purchased for the rebels in the United States. The latest intelligence from the forces in the interior is

(DALHIEL'S TELEGRAMS).

A JEALOUS BUTCHER'S REVENGE.

PARIS, June 16.—In the Avenue des Ternes this morning a widow named Pluchet, aged 44, proprietress of a butcher's shop, was murdered by her foreman, Eugene Cousin, a man of 39, who stabbed her in the body and then attempted to commit suicide. It appears that Cousin had formerly lived with Madame Pluchet, and when she took a shop he accompanied her manager. He was very audacious in looking after the business, and it was generally thought that his mistress would eventually marry him. Three years ago, however, Madame Pluchet took her own son into partnership with the result that Cousin ceased his intimacy with her. He still entertained the hope of marrying her though, and consequently viewed with jealousy the attentions paid to her by a neighbour. Yesterday Madame Pluchet accompanied this neighbour and her son into the country. This morning when she entered the shop Cousin asked her if she had enjoyed the excursion. "Oh, yes," she replied. "Where did you go?" he then demanded, to which she answered. "That is

nothing to do with you." This response apparently enraged Cousin, who seized a knife from the block and struck his mistress several times with fatal effect. The wounds which the murderer subsequently inflicted upon himself are very serious, as they have pierced the lungs twice, close to the heart.

The People.

A Weekly Newspaper for All Classes.

LONDON, SUNDAY, JUNE 19, 1892.

MILFORD LANE } STRAND.—No. 558.

DEVON.

THE MOST DELICIOUS SWEETMEAT EVER MADE.
MADE WITH FRESH DEVONSHIRE CLOTHED ORGANIC.
SOLD EVERYWHERE
IN PENNY PACKETS.
MANUFACTORY:
100, STRAND-STREET, W.

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

THE CITY OF LONDON.
At a meeting of the City Conservative Association, held on Friday at the Guildhall Tavern, Mr. Hucks Gibbs, M.P., said he looked back with pride to the fact that he had been one of the great Conservative majority in the benevolent Parliament of 1886, and that he supported a Government not of talk, but of action, a Government not of promise only, but of performance. But he did not feel satisfied with himself, or that he was able to discharge the duties committed to him with propriety and fulness, and therefore he had to ask them to choose a young man to stand in his place.—S. J. Fullerton, M.P., said various names had been discussed, but they came to the unanimous conclusion that Sir R. Hanson and Mr. Alfred Gibbs, as members for the City (cheers). The report and recommendation of the executive committee were adopted.—Sir R. Hanson and Mr. Alfred Gibbs returned thanks, and promised to give their best support to the policy of Lord Salisbury.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.—It is announced that Mr. A. Davies (G.) would stand in the place of Mr. Pritchard Morgan, but a later telegram says that Mr. Morgan has not decided to retire, as arrangements may be made whereby he may be able to contest the seat.

HERTFORDSHIRE, E. (Hertford).—Mr. E. P. Speirs (G.) will oppose Mr. Abel Smith (C.).

MEATH (South).—Mr. J. J. Dalton, M.P. (P.), will stand in place of Mr. Shiel.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, M. (Brixworth).—The Hon. Montague Erskine (C.) will oppose the Hon. C. E. Spencer (G.).

RUTLAND.—The Gladstonites will not oppose the return of Mr. Finch (C.).

TYRONE (North).—The Rev. Prof. Dorothy (A.P.) will oppose Lord F. Hamilton (C.). (South).—Mr. J. Dickson, M.P. for St. Stephen's Green, Dublin, opposes Mr. T. Russell (U.).

WICKLOW (West).—Mr. J. H. Parnell (P.) will stand in place of Mr. G. M. Byrne.

CORK CITY.—Messrs. W. O'Brien and M. Healy, Anti-Parnellites, oppose Messrs. W. Redmond and Horace Parnellites. Mr. W. O'Brien also contests N.E. Cork.

NORTHUMBERLAND, M. (Wansbeck).—Mr. S. McC. Hill (U.) will oppose Mr. C. Fenwick (G.).

SUSSEX, N. (East Grinstead).—Sir E. Jenkins (G.) will oppose the Hon. A. Gathorne Hardy (C.).

KILDARE (South).—Mr. Matthews J. Minch (A.P.), merchant of Athy, will stand against Mr. James Leahy (P.). (North).—Mr. Patrick J. Kennedy (A.P.), gentleman farmer, will stand against Mr. J. L. Carew (P.).

DUNDEE.—The Labour party have resolved to oppose Mr. Robertson's re-election, and Mr. J. Cowen has been asked to address them.

PAISLEY.—Mr. C. N. Johnson (U.) will oppose Mr. W. Dunn (G.).

SWANSEA (District).—Mr. Monger (U.), solicitor, will oppose Sir Hussey Vivian (G.).

SLIGO (South).—Mr. Thomas Curran is the Anti-Parnellite candidate.

CORK COUNTY.—At a convention held to select Anti-Parnellite candidates in the N.E., S.E., W., N., and Mid Divisions, the present representatives were selected. In East Cork, Capt. Donnellan was chosen, and in South Mr. E. Barry was adopted.

DEVONPORT.—Mr. H. H. Shee, Q.C. (G.), will oppose Mr. C. J. Darling (C.).

DEVON (Exmouth).—Dr. Aubrey (G.) will oppose Sir J. Keenaway (C.).

ABERDEEN (N.).—Mr. B. E. Lee (U.) will oppose Professor Hunter (G.).

ANGLO-WELSH (Capel).—Mr. Owen Thomas (L.) has withdrawn, leaving Mr. M. Lloyd (U.) to oppose Mr. Lewis (L.).

DONIGAL.—Mr. J. H. Gallagher (A.P.) will stand in the West, and Mr. J. Mains (A.P.) in the North Division.

LIVERPOOL (Exchange).—Mr. V. C. Bigham, Q.C. (U.), has finally decided to oppose Mr. Neville (G.).

ROSS AND CROMARTY.—Mr. Galloway Weir (G.) has been adopted as Crofter candidate.

W. RIMIC (Shipley).—Mr. Theophilus Peel (U.) has consented to stand.

MIDDLESEX (Uxbridge).—Mr. Leslie Probyn (G.) will oppose Mr. Dixon-Hartland (C.).

NORWOOD.—Mr. C. E. Tritton (C.), of Bromley, stands in place of the late Mr. Bristow.

SURREY (Wimbledon).—Mr. T. A. Meates (G.) will oppose Mr. H. C. Bonsor (C.).

BRADFORD (East).—Mr. J. Greevy Fisher (G.) is also standing, in addition to Mr. Caine, in opposition to Mr. Reed (C.).

DEVON (South Molton).—Mr. E. Moore-Stevens (C.) will oppose Mr. G. Lambert (G.).

DERBYSHIRE, W. (Wirksworth).—Mr. Rudkin (G.) retires, leaving The McDermott to oppose the Hon. V. Cavendish (U.).

GLAMORGANSHIRE, M. (V. of Neath).—Mr. F. C. Grove (U.) has been invited to oppose Mr. S. T. Evans (G.).

HULL (West).—Col. Gerard Smith (U.) will oppose Mr. C. H. Wilson (G.).

LIMERICK.—Mr. H. Harrison, M.P., is the Parnellite candidate for the East Division; and Mr. W. Noonan for the West.

ATTEMPT TO BURN A DUBLIN NEWSPAPER OFFICE.

A Dublin correspondent telegraphs that on Wednesday night an attempt was made to set fire to the office in which the *Dublin Figaro* is printed. The premises are occupied by the "Life" Publishing Company, and are situated in Temple-lane, off Dame-street. A few minutes after 11 o'clock a Mr. Chapman, who resides on the premises, heard a noise, and smelt a burning. On proceeding downstairs, he found that in the hall there had been placed a quantity of newspapers, which had been saturated with paraffin oil, and ignited. He succeeded in extinguishing the flames, and afterwards gave information to the police. The *Figaro* has recently been loudly condemned for strong strictures on Roman Catholic emblems.

TIDE TABLE FOR THE WEEK.

| | | | |
|-----------|-----------|---------|----------|
| LIVERPOOL | LIVERPOOL | BOSTON | BOSTON |
| MORNING | NOON | MORNING | NOON |
| S 8.20 | 9.32 | 6.36 | 7.21 |
| 9.34 | 10.46 | 7.52 | 8.37 |
| T 10.37 | 11.10 | 8.59 | 9.38 |
| 11.41 | 12.14 | 9.31 | 10.25 |
| 1.42 | 2.32 | 10.51 | 11.17 |
| 2.46 | 3.22 | 11.43 | ... 1.35 |
| 3.58 | 4.22 | 7.52 | 8.32 |

(ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.)
EZEKIEL RODDA,
THE HAUNTER OF THE SHORE.
BY JOHN SAUNDERS.
AUTHOR OF "ABEL BRAKE'S WIFE," "SHIRELL,"
"ISABEL HORN, OVERHILL," ETC.

CHAPTER VII.

FADED MAGNIFICENCE.

It was, perhaps, fortunate for Naomi that she had little if any time during the few days to brood over Jack's absence.

"Old Mrs. Rodda had been more than usually tiresome. One evening before retiring to rest she had taken the idea into her head that she would overhaul a collection of a ponderous oaken chest.

This chest was always kept securely locked and hidden from view beneath a heavy rug in her own room, consequently the treasures within had never been known by Naomi.

On the present occasion the old lady, who, on account of her rheumatism, had not been able for some time to examine her stores, decided to do what she had never permitted before, open the chest.

Well, he could say that he had received two or three long standing accounts for farm produce.

To took the exact sum required from his purse, and wrapped the coins in a piece of paper ready to be given to Sir Richard, and immediately turned his steps towards that gentleman's residence.

He had hardly crossed the length of a couple of fields before he recognised the stalwart figure of Sir Richard Pendlebury on horseback, apparently parting from a gentleman to whom he had been talking, and then riding forward to speak to some men who were mending the road.

Recognising Rodda as the latter came up to him and uncovered his head in respect, Sir Richard greeted him hastily and said, turning his horse in the direction of his home:

"I had intended calling at the farm, but I have been detained by an unexpected meeting. You are not busy perhaps you'll walk alongside."

"I want, Sir Richard, to say how sorry I am to have left the rent so long overdue, but I'm now prepared to present Good-bye."

"That's good news, Rodda. I hope your affairs are looking up a bit. But I wasn't exactly about the rent that I was coming to see you."

"Indeed, sir!" said Ezekiel, believing he noticed signs of embarrassment and an increase of colour on the good-looking blonde face of his landlord, while wondering whether his daughter was married in it. She was a godly woman, and did her duty in the station of life to which she was called. I think I'll wear that gown of afternoons. Put it on one side."

Naomi obeyed, while bending down into the depths of the chest to conceal a smile at the suggested picture of her grannys in the narrow skirt and short-waisted bodice.

"Gently, gently, there!" called the old lady. "My stuffs and garments don't require a haymaking hand. Lay out that robe ready upon the bed."

"How careless! Put it there. No—so!

Now you're rumpling that amber mantle," and she angrily rescued from Naomi's arms the injured garment. Then, as she felt the satin fur-lined mantle, she glared over it with childish delight.

"Fit for a grand lady going to a ball!" exclaimed Naomi. "It is lovely!"

"It was lovely," corrected her grannys. "Lay it beside the other. I shall wear it the next time I go out tea-drinking."

"Why, grannys, it is all moth-eaten, and though it is so fine it would be a queer thing for you to wear."

"What is there, my child, that the moth and canker-worm do not corrupt? But while I think of it, it will be well to remind you, Naomi, to restrain future that flippant tongue of yours. Queer thing, indeed! That mantle was worn by a real duchess, and given by her own hands to your great-grandmother, who was her grace's lady's maid. It may be old-fashioned now, but it carries in itself the presence of gentility and breeding."

A minute later Naomi burst out laughing. Her grannys turned as sharply as her rheumatism would permit to see the cause of such unladylike mirth. The girl held in her hand a violet velvet coal-scuttle bonnet of the largest size. A miniature garden of faded flowers filled the front cavity, while feathers of a brilliant pink colour, fastened at the back, drooped their tips over, and heightened the already towering edifice.

"Do look!" exclaimed Naomi, putting it on her own head. "Isn't it comical?"

"By no means," answered the frascible old lady. "I see nothing ludicrous in it," snatching the bonnet away. "How often must I tell you that the laughter of fools is as the crackling of thorns? It was my grand-mother's, and such should be duly respected."

"More fit for Eve's grandmother!" retorted Naomi, wilfully giving way to the overpowering mirth caused by her own fancy, and by no means unconscious how she was shocking her grannys. Of course this brought down on her a bitter reprimand ending in the words,

"I am grateful to the quick that one of my family to whom I taught the catechism, as well as everything else I ought to know, should live to foster in her heart the seeds of unbelief. How often have you stood before me, as a tiny child answering correctly in the Beginner's Catechism, and telling me the first commandment?"

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One chance still remained, but about that Ezekiel was in no mood to be hopeful. "Maybe, the minister's the same; only amusing himself at our expense!" His hand clenched involuntarily at the thought, but relaxed gently as memory brought before him words and actions telling a different tale. "After all, he mused, as he put the two sovereigns into his purse, 'if he loves her and marries her, his calling makes up for much of what she might have gained from Sir Richard's position. My lass wouldn't have been at her ease among all those finefolks, whereas, as the minister's wife, I should like to see the person, lady, or village lass as would be her superior. She's cut out for it, and could hold her own with any of them. Ay, and her heart's in the right place for that sort of life. Perhaps things are best as they are."

Rodda set out at once to see the minister, and found him in his garden, cutting off the dead roses, and tying up the straggling bushes on which were ripening buds, promising an autumnal harvest of the queen of flowers.

The garden was surrounded by a hedge, on the top of which grew tangled masses of honeysuckle.

Through a gap Ezekiel watched the minister as he moved about and worked rapidly, as if conscious every moment was of value.

Rodda could not but notice and admire the minister's noble head, his strongly-cut features, the black eyes of eagle-like keenness, and the black hair loosely tossed back from his broad brow. His dress was rough, and of studied plainness, his white neckcloth alone being distinctive of his calling.

As the minister at length paused to rest for a moment, Daniel presented himself at the gate.

"Good evening, Mr. Rodda, I am glad to see you," was the minister's greeting as he came immediately to him. "Pray come in! My garden is in disorder, but I've little time at my disposal, so I have been amusing myself during my tea-hour." He took out his watch. "I have still ten minutes to spare." He held the gate open as he spoke, adding, as Ezekiel followed him up the path, "Perhaps you'll give me your advice about these roses, and whether yonder corner would be a good place in which to dig a bed for strawberries. I am an amateur, you see, and but a poor hand for that. These are the bushes I spoke of." Rodda examined them, and pointed out where the minister's knife had ruthlessly cut away good wood, and where he had spared some that should have been sacrificed. He also showed the minister a suitable place for the strawberry bed.

"Granny, dear, how kind! I do thank you—I do indeed!" exclaimed Naomi.

"Mind, I won't have you squandering your time making it up during the day, when you ought to be at housework. Now help me to bed. I shall ring you up at five to-morrow morning."

CHAPTER VIII.

A WEDDING GIFT.

In Ezekiel's scheme for getting rid of Jack it was not merely the hope of marrying her to a different kind of suitor, but that he had in his secret thoughts the very man in view that might possibly become her husband.

This was no other than his landlord, Sir Richard Pendlebury, who had often shown in casual meetings a more than ordinary interest in Naomi, which she received with pleasure and deference, but simply as evidences of kindly feeling. There was, however, one awkward fact for Ezekiel in the way of any procedure.

Stopping to loo round and admire the garden, he said "that with a little attention it would certainly become

the landlord's agent had applied for it again and again. Then there was a change in his behaviour; he even accepted with a smile Rodda's promise to pay at a certain date, and troubled him no more, even when that date had passed without payment. Ezekiel naturally drew the conclusion that the agent had complained to Sir Richard, probably asked for liberty to take proceedings, and been at once silenced. If he now could pay the rent, it would give him the very opportunity he desired. He possessed still the secret gold from the box, which he had not touched, partly through thinking some peculiar necessity might arise for its use, and partly in the fear that his family, knowing that he had no legitimate resources, would necessarily, if he made use of this unsuspected hoard, be asking him whence he had been so fortunate as to obtain it.

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"Mind, I won't have you squandering your time making it up during the day, when you ought to be at housework. Now help me to bed. I shall ring you up at five to-morrow morning."

"If you look at the bottom of the chest you will find a piece of pompadour that I want." This Naomi brought forth. "Go to the window, and tell me what you think of it."

"Oh! grannys, I never saw anything more beautiful, or that I admire so much!"

"Well," replied Mrs. Rodda, "I won't deny that you have many faults, not the least being your love of finery, but I will own you are not envious or covetous; so take the pompadour, and make it up for yourself." This was said with a sweep of her hand and a manner worthy of an earthly Providence, as she no doubt felt herself to be.

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"Good evening, Mr. Rodda, I am glad to see you," was the minister's greeting as he came immediately to him. "Pray come in! My garden is in disorder, but I've little time at my disposal, so I have been amusing myself during my tea-hour." He took out his watch. "I have still ten minutes to spare." He held the gate open as he spoke, adding, as Ezekiel followed him up the path, "Perhaps you'll give me your advice about these roses, and whether yonder corner would be a good place in which to dig a bed for strawberries. I am an amateur, you see, and but a poor hand for that. These are the bushes I spoke of." Rodda examined them, and pointed out where the minister's knife had ruthlessly cut away good wood, and where he had spared some that should have been sacrificed. He also showed the minister a suitable place for the strawberry bed.

"Granny, dear, how kind! I do thank you—I do indeed!" exclaimed Naomi.

"Mind, I won't have you squandering your time making it up during the day, when you ought to be at housework. Now help me to bed. I shall ring you up at five to-morrow morning."

"If you look at the bottom of the chest you will find a piece of pompadour that I want." This Naomi brought forth. "Go to the window, and tell me what you think of it."

"Oh! grannys, I never saw anything more beautiful, or that I admire so much!"

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OUR OMNIBUS.

PIPER PAN.

So far as I can judge after frequent visits to Covent Garden Theatre, my old friend, Sir Augustus Harris, has been more successful this year than on any previous occasion. Of course, he cannot please everybody, and the electric lights which he provided a few weeks back have been so perseveringly complained of, that opaque brown glasses now surround the lights, and the theatre no longer wears the bright aspect it assumed at the beginning of the season.

Complaints are also made of the darkness in which the theatre is shrouded when the German Opera Company play. On Wednesday last, and on the preceding Wednesday, every light in the "auditorium" was extinguished. There was absolute darkness in all parts of the theatre except the enlarged orchestra occupied by the 100 German musicians.

The darkness on such occasions renders the books of words useless for the time. At each of the Wednesday operatic performances I purchased "books of the words," but directly the stage curtain was drawn up every lamp in the stalls, boxes, gallery, &c., was extinguished. In the case of a new opera this is very annoying.

The celebrated Polish pianist, Paderewski, gave his only piano-forte concert (this year) on Monday last, when St. James's Hall was crowded, although the price of admission had been greatly increased. Without entering into details, I venture to say that he played classical pieces better than they have been played by any other pianist for many years past. His programme was almost entirely "classical," and he played masterpieces of Schubert, Chopin, &c., with charming delicacy of expression.

Paderewski played throughout the greater part of the concert without any display of energetic power, but when he came to the final piece, Liszt's 12th "Rhapsody," he "let go" his strength of muscle to an astonishing extent, and was evidently fatigued when he came to the last bar. As I predicted, the salut part of his admirers (mostly ladies) were not content with calling him back, but persisted in demanding an encore piece, which was granted to my great regret.

The "Schubert Recitals" now in course of production at St. James's Hall by Sir Charles Hallé, I can honestly recommend to my readers. The programmes are always devoted to masterpieces by Schubert, piano-forte works are played by Sir Charles, and vocal pieces are charmingly sung by his gifted assistant.

Mr. Ildore de Laro's opera, "The Light of Asia," is remarkably excellent, considering that it is his first effort in the production of "grand" opera. The orchestra is clever, and most of the vocal solos merit the hearty applause they elicited when the opera was produced. For my own part, I do not hesitate to say that the permission to utilise Sir Edwin Arnold's beautiful poem as the foundation of an operatic plot was an unlucky gift for Mr. De Laro.

In the first place, there are thousands of theatre-goers who know nothing of Sir Edwin Arnold's "Light of Asia" nor of "Buddhism," and feel no sympathy for the hero of the opera. In the next place, the hero sneaks away from his bride in a contemptible manner, and from that moment loses the sympathy of his audience. Under these and other disadvantages Mr. De Laro has, in my opinion, added to his high reputation.

Another musical society has just completed its ninth or tenth season, and has called upon its guarantor 50 per cent. of each of their respective guarantees in order to make up a deficiency of between £300 and £400. The society in question has the aid of an excellent conductor, and occasionally distinguished itself by revivals of unjustly neglected compositions. It has generally abstained from the production of any modern composition. The result of this policy is seen in the doleful balance-sheets recently issued, and I fear that the guarantor—or most of them—will decline to renew their guarantees, in which case the society must collapse. It has been managed chiefly by a committee of amateurs, which will probably account for its decay.

OLLA PODRANA.—For the first performance of "Tristan und Isolde," on Wednesday last, every numbered seat is said to have been sold before the doors opened. I know that a lady offered two guineas for stall, but in vain. Mr. W. G. Cusins, the Queen's "Master of the Music," will give his annual morning concert next Wednesday, at St. James's Hall. On Monday, June 27th, a morning concert will be given at St. James's Hall, in aid of the "National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children."—Mr. Edward Lloyd is expected in England from America on Monday next.—The date of the National Eisteddfod at Rhyl is fixed for the second week in September.

BUCKLAND, JUNIOR.

Lovers of dogs attended the Kennel Club's Show at the Agricultural Hall, Islington, in considerable numbers. The entries were very fair in most of the classes, and there were 1,333 dogs bunched. The St. Bernards seemed to me an exceptionally fine lot. The barzois or Russian wolfhounds, of course, attracted much attention, and formed a very good class. Krialut, Young Krialut, Whirlwind, and other well-known dogs of this kind were on view, the Duchess of Newcastle being foremost amongst their exhibitors. The number of collies was not very great, but there was some good quality in them. Terriers of all sorts were, of course, in abundance. The toy dogs were in the usual upholstered cages and pens, the black pugs being perhaps, the most interesting of them.

There was a nice display of chow-chows, the Chinese black-mouthed dogs. It was a nice thing evidently between Mandarin's Gift and Chin-chen IV, for first place, and although the verdict was given in favour of the former, a red dog, there were many present who preferred the black one. The temperature, unfortunately, was very high, especially upstairs, and many of the dogs seemed to suffer from the heat. None of them were sorry, I expect, when the show was over.

Talking of the barzois, a correspondent of the Field has just given an interesting account of the sporting performances of that breed in its native land. The dogs, he says, are slow and wanting in dash when coursing hares, and will sometimes run five or ten minutes at a couple of feet behind pace without being able to touch hares. I could never imagine how such slight graceful-looking dogs could do much against a hare, but it is explained by this same writer. In the courting matches the wolves used are young and not fully grown. They are let out in the enclosure and a couple of barzois are let out at them. A man rides with the dogs, and as soon as they pin the wolf, the dog dismounts and gags and binds it, and other men coming to his assistance, the wolf is carried off. This man seems to be the most peculiar feature of the business, for it must require some skill, not to say

serve, to hold a wolf in this manner even with the assistance of the hounds.

It is said that certainly no two barzois could hold a full-grown active wolf without assistance for one minute and that probably the same animal would shake himself free of the four best barzois that ever stepped at the end of a minute and a half. If all this be true, the dog is rather a fraud in respect to wolves, and in an encounter with one I would much rather rely on one of the large-headed, strong Irish wolfhounds—though they be a degenerate breed—such as the magnificent Fingal at the show. But the Russian dog is a fine, aristocratic, pretty animal all the same, and seems likely to achieve popularity in this country, although not for sporting purposes.

Dogs apparently are to take up the major portion of my notes this week. Mr. James Alger sends an interesting story about one. A chicken having been hatched before its companions had commenced emerging from their eggs, my correspondent's wife placed it in a basket by the fire-side. After a time she went to look at it but it had disappeared. A little terrier bitch had taken it from the basket and was "cuddling" it underneath the sofa. The bird was replaced, but as often as this was done the bitch took it back again, and even when it was well wrapped up she would carefully unfold the flannel and take it out. She carries the chick by its wing very tenderly, and at the slightest chirrup lays it down fondly, then takes it up again. In fact she has taken to the bird so much that she shows an unmistakable determination to defend it forcibly against all comers.

A common duck in the possession of Mrs. R. Gapp, Poplar Farm, Mattockhall, has been laying eggs from four and a half to five ounces in weight. Last week she laid four eggs, weighing together forty and a half ounces. The eggs may be seen by those who wish to see them at Thomas J. Preston's, stationer, Holt, Norfolk.

They say that this year is going to be an exceptionally good butterfly year. Such prophecies often turn out ill, let me hope this one will not. There is a vast amount of them in catch and rare specimens. A regular collector may search vainly for years for one, which perhaps presents itself in the most unlikely situation before the veriest tyro who hardly realises his good fortune. Even collectors who can only work very close to London occasionally make good captures. If any of my readers do, I hope they will let us know for the interest of all, though, of course, they may keep the precise part of the locality secret if they fear too great an invasion of it which was granted to my great regret.

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THE ACTOR.

Mr. Irving has always been remarkable for the thoroughness of his stage work. Evidence he became a manager he has done for each play interpreted everything that could be done by the aid of the archiologist, the musician, and the pictorial artist. His successive programmes have been "productions" in the sense of the term. They have been artistic from beginning to end, and they have helped literature in the directest way.

Honest old Walton could hardly have imagined that in the nineteenth century a society of Caxtonians would be flourishing in Fleet-street. That such is the case, the annual dinner and prize distribution of the society of that name held last week at the Falcon, Gough-square, under the chairmanship of Mr. W. H. Cate, its popular president, abundantly proved. Mr. J. J. Chapman officiated in the vice-chair, and Mr. W. H. Brougham and "Old Isaac" were warmly welcomed guests. Mr. W. H. Cate, their painstaking secretary, was able to point to a good record, and a very substantial prize list was announced.

The Caxtonians, be it known, adopt a sportsmanlike standard, and give prizes only for the best fish. During last year the club cup, value £5 5s., and the first prize in the jack competition, were carried off by Mr. A. Brooks; Mr. W. H. Cate came next, taking prizes for jack, roach, and barbel, followed closely by Mr. A. J. Parker, with prizes for jack, roach, and bream. Among other prize winners I note Messrs. Deuchar, W. Cate, Stevens, Chapman, Hills, and Plummer. The Caxtonians, as a body, are more select than numerous, but their society, now in its eleventh year, has in it the elements of permanent prosperity.

I hear the Epsom Angling Society had a good meeting on Monday evening, when Mr. Matthews read his paper, and Mr. Edgar S. Shrubsole presided. They deserve every encouragement, and it is cheering to know they are supporters of river preservation, and that a T.A.P.S. collecting box will in future be found in their meeting room at the Wellington.

It would probably be difficult to get together a better assembly of representative anglers than gathered at the Coffee Pot Tavern, Warwick-lane, on Monday last, the occasion being the annual supper of the Caution Angling Society, and with it the celebration of the birthday of Mrs. Keeble, wife of their worthy host. Mrs. Keeble is herself one of the followers of Walton, and the few words she was prevailed upon to say, in response to the toast of her health, indicated how much her sympathies were with the angling fraternity.

The Central Association delegates had several important matters brought under notice at their meeting last week, among them, the Pulteney fisheries, lady anglers' tickets, and Thames preservation. I fear the lady anglers stand little chance of recognition, and whatever privileges they claim, an anglers' privilege ticket apparently must not be among them. The delegates unanimously decided to support the idea of a general collection for Thames preservation on a day to be arranged, and I hope it may be carried out. Mr. W. H. Brougham has just issued an urgent appeal, and I am sure anglers will not be wanting to preserve such a noble river as the Thames. Any friends wishing to aid may send contributions to Mr. W. H. Brougham, at the London Office, 12, Regent-street, S.W.

Mr. W. J. Wade, whose activity as secretary of the Central Association is well known to all anglers, tells me that the number of privilege tickets he has already issued is far in excess of the number issued this time last year, and he is inundated with applications.

I am glad to hear it. For the convenience of secretaries, I may say that Mr. Wade's address is 6, Priter-road, Bermondsey, S.E.; and that of Mr. R. Gurney, secretary of the Anglers' Association, is 116, Murray-street, New North-road, N.

GENERAL CHATTER, M.P.

Some time ago, having been repeatedly asked by correspondents to recommend some good-smoking tobacco at moderate prices, I named certain brands of that famous Irish firm, Messrs. Goodbody. I was enabled to do so by an old friend in Ireland, who, knowing my love of really good tobacco, kindly supplied me with samples of the Goodbody goods. So much to my liking were they that I have since smoked nothing else. When, therefore, I now direct our smoking readers' attention to the arrangement just entered into between this paper and Messrs. Goodbody, I cannot be charged with having my judgment biased by that connection, that having been arrived at and publicly delivered long ago. Their tobacco are excellent in quality, very finely flavoured, and quite moderately priced; while their leaf-enclosed cigarettes, being entirely free from arsenic and much slower burning than the paper cigarette, are both more wholesome, more economical, and pleasanter to the lips.

Mr. Horace Sedger and Mr. Luther Monday have invited their friends to the Lyric Club on Monday afternoon next to witness the representation of some pictures, illustrations of what may be called the great love-makers in history—the romantic couples whose names and fames have been handed down by dramatists and poets.

It is not surprising to find that "La Statue du Commandeur" has been promoted to the evening bill at the Prince of Wales's. After the curtain fell on the second act—nay, even earlier—its success was assured. When the statue began to thaw at the feast, under the

influence of wine and feminine blandishments, the triumph of the play was certain. Nothing more droll than the scene at the supper-table, and afterwards, has been witnessed on the London stage for a long time. Pierrot, Jan., was the attraction in the case of "L'Enfant Prodigue." In this case it is the representative of the status which gives the title to the play.

OLD IZAK.

If little has been done in the way of Thames troutting during the past week, the weather must be held accountable. When a difference of 30 or 40deg. is experienced in temperature within a few days, and freezing point is slightly played in the middle of June, what sport can be expected? The coarse fishing season has opened in the Thames, and we must be content to live hopefully on; prospects are certainly good in our grand river, and I am assured elsewhere also.

Since last report Capt. Allison, fishing with George Rosewell, at Shepperton, has secured a male trout of 9lb. 13oz., but it proved a long and ill-conditioned fish, much inferior in sequence to others lately taken. One of gib has been caught within the last week at Shepperton, and another of 3lb. at Hampton Court Weir, where several large barbel were taken the trout anglers trouble. Mr. Chamberlin, of Henley, very recently took a fine trout scaling 4lb., both fish being taken from Marsh Weir, and the largest of them, I am specially informed, was landed in Dr. Brunton's style, with net, gaff, or assistance.

A few good trout have been taken in the Lea between the Rye House and Hertford, and fishing is decidedly looking up. Prospects are certainly favourable for the coming season, and reports which have reached me of the Witham and Lincolnshire waters tell the same tale. The Pulteney, Ambley, and Sussex waters generally will now be well patronised, and I note that the Silver Trout, Isaac Walton, and other clubs have already arranged for outings in those neighbourhoods, results of which it will be my pleasure soon to chronicle.

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and I am sure anglers will not be wanting to preserve such a noble river as the Thames.

In similar manner, his Shakespearean performances have largely increased the current sale of the dramas to which he has thus called attention.

It is wise, or even in good taste, for actors to accept parts in a piece which appears to have for its object the ridiculing of the Jewish portion of the community, or at least of a phase of Jewish life?

This question has been raised in the course of the past few days, and it is not easy to answer. The individual player is the best judge of what is most to his advantage. Probably in the case referred to, the actors have felt that the work could not be taken seriously. Very many of their brethren are themselves Jews, but they would no doubt look at the matter from a purely business point of view. Jews have before now played Jews on the stage, and the goings-on of turning the laugh against themselves.

Talking of Jewish actors, the public would be surprised, I think, if they knew to what extent the "profession" is leavened by the Jewish element. The proportion of Jews to Gentiles is very large indeed. The "chosen people" seem, indeed, to be born actors.

It is not the greatest actress in the world—Madame Bernhardt—a Jewess? And was not Rachel, the greatest of her predecessors, also a Jewess?

The race and creed of the players is no business of the public's, but if the truth were known it would, I believe, be found that the dramatic art is chiefly maintained by men and women of Semitic extraction.

Not everybody knows, I suspect, that the famous entertainer, Henry Russell, is a Jew. He has been recalled to my mind by the fact that I had a little chat with him the other day. "I am only 79," he remarked, with a humorous twinkle in the eye, when congratulated on looking so well. He is staying in London just now; usually, I believe, he lives at Boulogne. He has more than one association with the stage. One of his sons is actually on the "boards." Another, Mr. Clark Russell, the novelist, may be said to have begun his literary career by writing a play, which, however, was not, I fancy, a great success.

Miss Violet Vanbrugh and Mr. Gordon Craig (Miss Ellen Terry's son) were happily inspired when they thought of giving his dramatic representation to Mr. Austin Dobson's "Tudor in a Conservatory." "Tu Quoque."

There are only forty lines in the whole poem, so that it does not take long to perform. Nevertheless, as rendered by these young players at Mr. Hawes's entertainment the other night, the little jeu d'esprit "w.t." very effectively and furnished much amusement.

Thursday evening Mr. Percy Fitzgerald gave a pleasant theatrical entertainment at his house in South Bolsover. He does not come much before the public in direct connection with the theatre; but playgoers will remember that he was part author of "Vanderdecken," in which Mr. Irving appeared, and that he has written several small pieces. He is an enthusiast on stage matters, on which he has published a book, and has a store of facts and figures.

Onibus travelling is becoming more and more popular; on some routes it is almost impossible at certain times of the day to secure a seat either inside or outside. Yet the companies constantly increase the number of their conveyances to meet this ever-growing demand. No doubt penny fares have a good deal to do with the augmentation of public patronage. It is quite common to see passengers ride for only a few hundred yards; if they had more than a penny to pay for the lift the large majority would certainly foot it.

Where is the colony or country to which an Englishman should go who has not mastered any calling or handicraft, and therefore can

not pick up a living in his native land? It is a common question enough, but extremely difficult to answer. A smattering of book learning and a willingness to work count for nothing; the former is at a heavy discount in Greater Britain owing to the supply exceeding the demand, while when an emigrant declares his readiness to "turn his hand to anything," the fatal question is sure to be asked, "What can you do that is worth paying for?" Many a young fellow has cause to curse the educational system which perverts him, while neglecting to teach him that which would enable him to earn an honest living.

A very pretty emblematic badge for Unionist electors and functionaries has been forwarded to me by Messrs. Marshall and Snelgrave. It is made of a narrow cored silk ribbon, coloured red, white, and blue, with a gilt crown in the centre, with a safety pin at the back keeps the folds in place. As the price of this tasteful emblem is only 4d., it should have an extensive sale. What will the Separatist badge be? I know one that would be eminently suitable—a goose being fitted with Irish shamrocks and other green stuff.

The latest accounts from the rural districts are full of promise for the Unionist cause. Much to his credit, the agricultural labourer shows a more and more marked preference for those who have conferred legislative benefits on his class; he cannot forget or forgive the cruel manner in which the Gladstonites threw him overboard in 1886, after he had served their purpose by placing them in office. He forgets, too, that the anarchy certain to result in Ireland from creating a native Parliament would inevitably compel thousands of Irish labourers to seek a living in England, with the result of lowering the value of agricultural labour.

Very carefully compiled estimates of the general election give the Unionists a clear majority of about 30, but there are not wanting some authorities who place it at a still higher figure. Those electors, therefore, who like to "jump with the jumping cat,"

THE THEATRES.

ROYAL ENGLISH OPERA HOUSE, MADAME BERNARDT IN A NEW PART.

What the great French actress could have found in the play of "Pauline Blanchard," to induce her to impersonate the title role passes human wit to understand, the piece having neither incident, characterisation, or dialogue to raise it above the level of the coarsest and commonest domestic melodrama. The heroine is compelled, under the influence of the abject terror aroused in her by her savage father, a French provincial tradesman, to go through a civil marriage, making her the wife of a no less brutish husband, from whose loutish embrace she revolts ere the wedding day is ended, fleeing from this loathed bridegroom to seek shelter and protection in the arms of the lover she has known and been secretly affianced to since childhood. The painful ceremony of the forced marriage before the mayor over, the rest of the play up to the final scene exhibits the wretched Pauline at hide and seek from her harsh parent until the dread of discovery affects her reason. Repudiated by the lover she has sought and trusted—cur, who, after making the wretched bride his mistress, turns her adrift for fear of the world's condemnation—at the selfish coward's bidding the forsaken Pauline returns, half-dazed, to the home of her no less repulsive and detestable husband. Unable to resist his embrace, she resents his sensual kiss by cutting his throat with a reaper's sickle found ready to her hand, and then dies herself from sheer nervous exhaustion. Not even the genius of a Bernhardt could render such a succession of grisly miseries tolerable; and the monotone of physical horror, continued through the six dreary acts, unrelied by one gleam of humour or touch of sympathetic sentiment, caused the play, despite the wonted intensity of the actress, to become irksomely tedious. The profound respect justly due to Madame Bernhardt for her inimitable histrionic art prevented the audience from giving over expression to dissatisfaction at the close of the performance, which lasted close upon four mortal hours; but it was significant that after the actress had appeared there was no sound indicative of a desire to see the authors, or more truly to say, the adaptors, M.M. Darmont and Humbot, who have failed to show the slightest dramatic instinct either in their choice of subject or the use they have made of it. It is said that the English verdict upon "Pauline Blanchard" is identical with that given in America, which the play was first produced.

PRINCE OF WALES'.

The Parisian success of "Le Statue du Commandeur" seems likely to be repeated in London if a true forecast of the entertainment may be drawn from the amusement the audience on witnessing this play in pantomime for the first time in London. As the French title indicates and the English name superadded proves, the story, somewhat differentiated for sake of broad, humorous effects, is none other than the "Feast de Pierre," of Molibre, and the "Don Giovanni" of Mozart, and the plot of the dead Commander, whose statue descends from its pedestal at the taunting invitation to supper of the dissolute Don who slew him, lends itself to illustration by facial play and gesture, aided by appropriate music, was fully recognised by its explicit development in mimetic action. The incidental novelty interpolated exhibits the stern stone guest seated at the Don's supper table between two fascinating damsels, and yielding to their alluring invitations to pledge them in bumper of wine until he becomes so tight that what he loses in dignity he gains in humour. Peals of laughter were elicited when the vivified marble effigy, in applauding the dance of one of his charms, broke off one of his fingers, and proceeded to restore the brittle digit to his hand by the aid of plaster. The fresh Bacchanalian fun, so to speak, of a ghost overcome by a spirit is continued when the tipsy statue, returning from supper, strives in vain to remount his pedestal, until the renewed mockery of the dissolute Don stimulates the stone effigy to consistent firmness, enabling the Commander to reassert his dignity and avenge his own death by calling down the thunderbolt to slay his slayer. The stone effigy was fully realised in its opposite phases of imposing dignity and bulbous humour by M. Tarride; and the fascination of the damsels who lure the ghost to disclose his dignity in drink made the feast seem possible under the influence of such charms as those of Mesdames Chassin and Litini. M. Burgues gracefully enacted the dissolute Don Juan, the comic terror of whose valet Eganiere were cleverly simulated by M. Courtes. The new entertainment is to be repeated every afternoon throughout the season.

MARLOW'S.

A short sketch, entitled "A Romantic Fair," full of diverting moments, is just now highly appreciated by the patrons of this resort. It might well be called "Love at First Sight," and the author, Mr. George Lacer, is probably correct in his surmise that the practical value of advertising for matrimonial partners has yet to be demonstrated. In this piece acquaintance is formed with four persons, one of whom, housemaid, has been advertising for a husband. A candidate puts in an appearance in answer to the advertisement and is eventually accepted; and, indeed, it would have been sore comfort, both to himself and the audience, had his suit been rejected after the trying catechism endured by him in order that the captivating young housemaid may not be deceived into marrying an undesirable applicant. Miss Emily Adams (Mrs. F. Marlow) and Mr. Johnny Hanson, as the confiding young housemaid and the long-confident swain respectively, give point to the author's lines by their capable acting while, anon and again, the author himself hovers around in various guises that serve as connecting links to his story. The vocal selections introduced into the sketch are most appetising, the music being charmingly rendered by the followers of Mr. Henry Parks. Among the other popular items of Mr. Marlow's present programme may be mentioned the serio-comic items "A Little Miss Topsy," "Levaine and the Sisters," "Gouda," the domestic sketch by Mr. Alf. George, and Miss Ruby Lee, and the eccentric business so excellently presented by Mr. Harry Chapman, the Brothers Dagmar, Phil Raymond, Hyde and Elton, Fred Langton, and others.

While other theatres are waning with the season, the vast area of the Royal English Opera House is filled nightly to witness the impersonations of Madame Bernhardt. It matters little what the drama be, "Cleopatra" or "La Tosca," it is sufficient for the more educated and refined section of playgoers—whose name now is legion—that its leading character is assumed by the great French actress. The nightly receipts for each of these performances average £400, of which Madame Bernhardt takes one-third. This eminent histrion has read and accepted for production before leaving London a one-act play, entitled "Salomé," to be given in French by Mr. Oscar Wilde. At a heavy matinee, to be given by Mr. Wilford Morgan on the 22nd, will be produced a comedietta by Mr. George Grossmith; also a new one-act musical play by Messrs. Rutland Barrington and H. J. Caldwell, called a "Knight Errant."

DISASTROUS FIRE AT UPPER HOLLOWAY.

The handsome new Trafalgar-square Theatre in St. Martin's-lane, just completed from designs by Mr. Walter Kinden for Mrs. Frank Wyatt (Miss Violet Melnotte), will be opened on September 3rd, when the lessee, Mr. Levenson, inaugurates his management with the long-promised new opera, composed by Mr. Touliouche to a libretto by Mr. W. Yardley, called "The Wedding Eve," in which, among others, Messrs. George Barret, Tapley, and W. Elton will appear. Miss Marie Tempest, cannot, as was once rumoured, be the prima donna, her services being already retained for another American tour. At the approaching tercentenary commemoration of Dublin University, the degree of "Doctor of Letters" will be conferred, causa honoris, upon Mr. Irving. This is the first occasion on which an actor has been so honoured by any home University. Mr. and Mrs. Kendal are to arrive this week from the States, when the contract under which they become lessees of the Prince of Wales' Theatre for a half year from the 1st of January next will be confirmed. The Lyric is to be sold by auction at the Mart on the 21st of July, but the purchaser will have to take over its present lessee, Mr. Horace Sedger, with the theatre. A start is to be made at once with the construction of the Brixton Theatre of which the theatrical agent, Mr. Blackmore, is to be not only builder but manager when the edifice is completed. The site is held by the new Tate Free Library, in the high road at the foot of Brixton Hill. Christmas is the time designed for the opening of this suburban playhouse, which will give the same style of entertainment as the Grand at Islington.

Mr. Willard sailed from America on Wednesday, the 13th inst., in the City of New York, and hopes to land at Liverpool on the 22nd. The production of Mr. Eden Green's play, "Shakespeare," at the Globe Theatre, has been postponed to the 27th, in order not to clash with Sarah Bernhardt's premiers of "Leah" on the 25th. The play will be made up with the period of the poet's life, from the time he left his house with Tom Green and his troupe of players, through his life in London, his reception by Queen Elizabeth, to his return, covered with girdle on the banks of the Avon and his faithful love, Anne Hathaway.

The 33rd anniversary of the opening of the London Pavilion will be celebrated on the 22nd inst., when a grand variety entertainment will be produced. For this night the directors have obtained the usual late license. The popular nautical drama "The Mariners' Compass" will be revived at the Britannia on Monday, with "The Soldier's Legacy" as an afterpiece. Mr. Fred Law, the courteous and highly respected acting manager of the South London Palace, will celebrate his annual benefit there on Thursday evening next. Many well-known artists have promised to contribute to the special entertainment being prepared for this occasion.

The stock season at the Marylebone closed last week with the performance of "A Million of Money." On Monday the summer season will be started by Mr. C. H. Ross, whose travelling company will appear in "The Detective."—Intending visitors to Yarmouth this summer may be reminded that Mr. James Chappell's Beach Concerts will be in full swing early next month. This year it will be seen that Mr. Chappell has been able to carry out one of his long-cherished ideas in connection with this enterprise, for the enclosure is boarded and now boasts of a "canopy." This improvement having been effected it is unnecessary to add that "Uncle Jim" has seen his way to making other improvements that have in a great way obliterated the disadvantages of previous seasons. Mr. Chappell's "Yarmouth Song Book" is in the press.

Mr. Frank Harvey will conclude his season at the Surrey at the end of next week, during which his well-known company will be seen in the drama "Fallen Among Thieves."—The Montpelier Music Hall, Walworth, lately destroyed by fire, is, we believe, being rebuilt on a more extensive scale.—Or Monday Mr. J. R. Perfect, jun., manager of the Parkhurst, Upper Holloway, will take his annual benefit. On this evening will also be celebrated the second anniversary of the opening of the theatre, and in framing the entertainment every effort will be made to give due significance to these important events.—On Tuesday and the four following nights will be played "The Colleen Bawn," and an original nautical piece by Sutton Vane, entitled "Nelson." Mr. Paul Martinetti and his talented company will on Monday appear at the Middlesex in "A Terrible Night."—The attraction will be "Amy Robart," the character of which will be played by the members of Mr. J. F. 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LAST WEEK'S ITEMS.

The Duke of Bedford returned 40 per cent. to his tenants in Bedfordshire on the half-year's rent due at Lady-day.

The death was announced at Washington of Col. L. L. Polk, president of the Farmers' Alliance.

Frederick Marr, a bootmaker was committed for trial at Rochester for the attempted murder of his wife.

A young seaman named William Partridge, whose home is at Canterbury, was drowned whilst bathing at Poole.

The Russian Minister of the Interior sanctioned measures for preventing the importation of cholera into Russia from Persia by way of the Caspian Sea.

It was stated at St. Petersburg that the Khan of Khiva would request the sanction of the Russian Government for a tour which he proposes making in Europe.

An important movement was made by the French in their operations against Dahomey, Whydah, the chief port of the country, and its environs having been occupied by 4,000 French troops.

The operations against the Jebus in the neighbourhood of Accra are now completely an end. The King is a prisoner at Lagos, and his subjects are anxious for peace on any terms.

At Castle Eden Police Court Joseph Pearson, master blacksmith, was committed for trial on a charge of shooting, with intent to do bodily harm to Joseph Atkin, a miner of Wheatsley Hill Colliery.

Benjamin Teitzen, 32, carman, Oxford street, Stepney, fell from his van into the road. He was taken to the London Hospital, where it was found that he was suffering from a broken leg.

A demonstration was held at Rochester in support of the bargeemen who are out on strike against the proposal of the cement manufacturers to reduce the load.

Mr. T. D. Sankey, the well-known evangelist, left Southampton for New York by the s.s. Columbia, in excellent health. His departure was witnessed by many friends.

Det. Palmer, New York, claimed to have discovered over 500,000 dollars' worth of securities, belonging to the bankrupt firm of Field, Lindley, Wickers and Co., which were secreted by Field in different parts of the country.

The Irish National League of America has issued a circular from Omaha announcing that the man who will form the commission to Ireland are Messrs. O'Neill and Ryan, of St. Louis; Mr. Gory, Sweeney, of Cincinnati; and Messrs. M. D. Gallaher and William Lyman of New York.

The French Budget Commission decided in favour of the payment of 320,000 francs to the victims of the Anarchist outrages in the Boulevard St. Germain, the Boulevard Malesma, and the Rue de Cligny, besides a life pension of 12,000 francs to M. Very's widow, and of 800 francs to his daughter.

At the Nenagh Sessions the sentence of three months' hard labour upon Mr. Stoner, barrister, for an assault upon the wife of Capt. Bunbury, under circumstances already reported, was, upon appeal, confirmed. The case excited intense local interest owing to the position of the parties.

Messrs. Budden and Hart's boathouses, erected on the Surrey bank of the Thames, and Lambeth Waterworks, were destroyed by fire. Fortunately a large number of boats were on the river at the time, and what remained in the boathouses were removed.

During the height of a thunderstorm at Barnes late on the 10th inst., a cowhouse and stack of straw, situated at Top Farm, Kersford Hill, in the occupation of Marmaduke Pickles, was set on fire by lightning, and a considerable amount of damage was done.

Henry Mott, an engine-driver, engaged at the Great Western Railway, pickling yards, Southall, was killed whilst crossing the line to his work. In avoiding a passing train, the poor fellow stepped into the way of a passing express, and was cut to pieces. Deceased leaves a widow and four young children.

The whole of the crew of the steamer Ard, grain lades from Varna, landed at Weymouth. While the vessel was five miles south-west of the Owers on the 10th inst., she ran into the Lancashire steamer belonging to Messrs. Bibby Bros. and Co., of Liverpool, and foundered very soon afterwards. No lives were lost.

The result of the debate in the Italian Chamber of Deputies on the Bill for granting a vote on account, and the Government's amendment to grant a provisional credit for six months ending December, as an amendment to the proposal of the Budget Committee limiting the vote to one month, was that the amendment was carried by a majority of 72 votes.

A telegram from St. Petersburg, in the Cope's *Times*, in announcing the expected return of the Czar, says a decision will then be rendered respecting the maintenance or removal of the prohibition against the export of grain. The Famine Commission are not in favour of the removal, but the prevalence of swarms of locusts in the Caucasus and the Oural will strengthen the feeling in favour of the removal.

A disastrous fire occurred at Arnold, near Nottingham, which resulted in the total destruction of two story factory containing thirty hours' machine and a large quantity of manufactured material. An hour after the outbreak the whole place was in ruins. The damage is estimated at £20,000, but the proprietors, Messrs. Moore Brothers, are covered by insurance.

At Wrexham, the Hon. Mrs. Kenyon, wife of the member for the Denbigh Boroughs, cut the first sod of the Wrexham and Ellesmere Railway. The line will be about thirteen miles long, and will connect the systems of the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, Wrexham, and Conn's Quay and Cambrian Railways Companies, and to provide a new route between South and North Wales, Chester, Manchester, and the north.

An inquest was held at Sheffield on the body of Mrs. Fowler, aged 23, who was killed in the fair ground. Deceased got into a swing boat worked on a patent principle, and requested the attendant to give her a good peep o'er the top. The boat went exceedingly high, and descended fell into the bottom, and was found to be seriously injured, dying at the hospital to which she was conveyed. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death.

An inquest was held at Cheltenham on the body of a man found decapitated on the Midland line between Cheltenham and Gloucester. The evidence of a woman, with whom the deceased lodged, proved that he was a man of independent means, and had relatives at Cheltenham for six weeks. His name was Baylis, and had frequently said that he was tired of life, having nothing to live for. The coroner adjourned the inquest for the examination of the driver of the train.

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which would influence him in private life. He will take on the applicant who comes to him with the best testimonials, and he will absolutely decline to entrust his keys to the keeping of one who has the hardihood to apply for the situation without a character.

NOTHING BUT HOME RULE.

After long endeavouring to avoid committing himself, one way or the other, on the eight hours' question, Mr. Gladstone has at last been brought to book. For once in a way, too, there is no lack of definiteness in his attitude; he absolutely refuses to lend a hand in placing legislative restrictions on labour. The leaders of the two great political parties are, therefore, at one in that respect; they jointly relegate the question to those whom it most closely concerns—the working classes themselves. If, therefore, any Unionist or Separatist candidate declares in favour of the eight hours' limitation, he will only speak for himself and not for his party. But the masses will not be slow to mark the main reason assigned by Mr. Gladstone for refusing to take up the question. All the rest of his political life is dedicated, he frankly declares, to the bestowal of Home Rule on Ireland; he has neither time nor inclination to deal with labour questions, or, indeed, any other matters. English and Scotch electors now know, therefore, what their treatment would be were their votes to place Mr. Gladstone in office. Even as in 1886 he contemptuously spurned the agricultural labourers after they had placed him in office, so would he reward the British masses for their electoral support by thrusting their claims aside until the Irish question was finally settled. As that would certainly not be accomplished in one, two, or three sessions, nor even in the whole lifetime of the next Parliament, Mr. Gladstone's latest programme really means the complete encagement of all the booms promised in the Newcastle programme and again the other day at the Memorial Hall meeting. He makes the fulfilment of each and every pledge conditional on the establishment of an Irish Parliament; not until then will he be at liberty to even consider the legislative wants of the British democracy. We heartily thank Mr. Gladstone for his plain speaking; whether it will tell to his electoral advantage remains to be seen. That will certainly not be the case unless English and Scotch common sense and shrewdness have vanished entirely. Truly may it be said of Mr. Gladstone that when asked for bread he only gives a stone. His British followers beg and entreat him to attend just a little to their crying wants, but his angry reply is, "Trouble me not; I have no other concern in life than to place the government of Ireland in the hands of disloyal and greedy factions." One might almost imagine that Mr. Gladstone still remains under the spell which Mr. Parnell put upon him.

THE BISHOPSGATE COLLISION.

It is long since London has experienced a railway accident of such a serious kind as that which occurred at the Bishopsgate-street Station last Tuesday morning. Four persons have thereby lost their lives, some seven-and-twenty had to be conveyed to hospital, and a number of others were more or less seriously hurt. As to the real cause of the collision we must, of course, refrain, at the present stage, from expressing any opinion. That "some one had blundered" is obvious; but how it came about that the Enfield train ran past the signals and dashed into the rear carriages of the Walthamstow train will have to be made clear by official inquiry, and no evidence was offered on that subject at the opening of the inquest. The saddest part of the whole affair consists in the fact that every one of the victims belonged to the working classes. To families in a humble station of life the death or serious injury of the husband and father is the most terrible blow that can possibly be conceived. It means, in many cases, the sudden plunge of the family into absolute destitution, temporary or permanent, which reduces the wife and children of an industrious man, who has suffered injury or death on the way to his work, to the same level as the family of the drunken loafer. This is very hard, and such cases may well appeal to the generous sympathy of the public. We trust that the public spirit shown by Mr. Benskin in promptly offering to subscribe for the relief of the victims may result in an abundant flow of contributions. Englishmen can be generous enough when a foreign country or a British colony is in distress, and here they have a chance of lightening a burden which has descended with crushing and undeserved suddenness upon these unfortunate families.

ROYALTY IN THE EAST END.

The Princess Christian paid a visit to the East-end of London to lay the foundation stone of the Home for Working Boys in Spital-square. There are altogether eight houses of the kind in London, and that in Spital-square was opened twenty-one years ago by the late Mr. Samuel Morley and others for the shelter of homeless boys starting life in the City. The demand for accommodation has so much increased that it has been found necessary to rebuild, and in the new houses there will be accommodation for eighty boys as compared with fifty in the old. A sum of £4,000 has already been contributed, but more will be needed to complete the work. It may be added that each boy in the home pays £4.6d for his board and £1.5s for his bedding. The Princess Christian, on arriving, was received in a room tastefully decorated for the occasion by Messrs. Maple, of Tottenham Court-road, and on entering the enclosed space where the ceremony was performed was presented with a choice bouquet by the Hon. Mary Louise Pelham. On placing the foundation stone in position the Princess declared it well and truly laid, to the glory of God and the welfare of homeless City working boys. The Hon. T. H. W. Pelham (treasurer), Mr. Lord Kinnaird, and the Bishop of Wakefield took part in the proceedings. The architect is Mr. Howard Seth-Smith.

DISASTROUS RAILWAY COLLISION IN LONDON.



WORKMEN'S TRAINS IN COLLISION. FIVE PERSONS KILLED. MANY INJURED.

At about 6.30 on Tuesday morning a workman's train, which had left Walthamstow (St. James's-street) at 6.45, was at a standstill in the Bishopsgate Low Level Station of the Great Eastern Railway, when a similar train, starting from Enfield at 5.55, ran into its rear, with the result that two carriages of the Walthamstow train were very much damaged and the engine of the Enfield train slightly so. Two passengers in the Walthamstow train were killed on the spot, a third succumbed upon his removal to the London Hospital, and several others were injured, some of them seriously, the passengers from Enfield for the most part escaping with a shaking. The line was blocked for four hours, traffic being resumed at 10.45 a.m., but the public was not inconvenienced, as the traffic was diverted to the other roads which run into Liverpool-street terminus. Pending the Board of Trade inquiry into the cause of the collision, inquiries being necessary, the bodies lie in the districts of Dr. Macdonald, M.P., and of Mr. Wynne Baxter—the company offers no technical explanation of the cause of the disaster, but the officials state that the line is worked on the absolute block system, that the driver of the Enfield train is not to blame, and that the accident probably originated in a misunderstanding between two signalmen, one of whom was stationed in the middle box outside Bishopsgate, and the other was on duty in the north end station box, the south box not being implicated. With regard to the rumour that a signalman had been suspended, the officials were unwilling to give any information. Appended is a full list of the dead and injured in it is believed that many persons were removed to their own homes, and their names do not appear below.—DEAD.

At the London Hospital.
Died soon after admiring a man, 5ft. 6in., of dark complexion, hair turning grey, eyes half-closed, nose from cut on thumb of left hand, eye-tooth on left side of upper jaw broken. Dose, grey diagonal cutaway, coat pockets on both sides with hairy gray and black Oxford shirt, white flannel undershirt, white turn-down collar, lace boots, red handkerchief with white spots in the pockets, a third class ticket from Liverpool-street to St. James's-street, a tobacco-box, "M. M." in monogram of lid, 6d. silver, 1d. brown, one brass pencil, a two-bladed pocket-knife, and a bunch of keys.

At the SHOREDITCH MORTUARY.
Richard Child, a boy of 14, of 31, Melford-road, Walthamstow, identified by his father, William Withey, aged 52, dock labour, of 8, Colchester-road, Walthamstow, identified by his daughter.

At the BISHOPSGATE COLLISION.

It is long since London has experienced a railway accident of such a serious kind as that which occurred at the Bishopsgate-street Station last Tuesday morning. Four persons have thereby lost their lives, some seven-and-twenty had to be conveyed to hospital, and a number of others were more or less seriously hurt. As to the real cause of the collision we must, of course, refrain, at the present stage, from expressing any opinion. That "some one had blundered" is obvious; but how it came about that the Enfield train ran past the signals and dashed into the rear carriages of the Walthamstow train will have to be made clear by official inquiry, and no evidence was offered on that subject at the opening of the inquest. The saddest part of the whole affair consists in the fact that every one of the victims belonged to the working classes. To families in a humble station of life the death or serious injury of the husband and father is the most terrible blow that can possibly be conceived. It means, in many cases, the sudden plunge of the family into absolute destitution, temporary or permanent, which reduces the wife and children of an industrious man, who has suffered injury or death on the way to his work, to the same level as the family of the drunken loafer. This is very hard, and such cases may well appeal to the generous sympathy of the public. We trust that the public spirit shown by Mr. Benskin in promptly offering to subscribe for the relief of the victims may result in an abundant flow of contributions. Englishmen can be generous enough when a foreign country or a British colony is in distress, and here they have a chance of lightening a burden which has descended with crushing and undeserved suddenness upon these unfortunate families.

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and then went straight to Bethnal Green, and thence to Highbury. I was in the third carriage from the locomotive, and when I managed to step off at the platform six minutes, and then heard the people crying out, "Hold hard, hold hard." The passengers in the carriage shouted, and some seemed to see the Enfield train coming down the incline. She had pulled up a bit, but there was a great deal of smoke, and I could see anything for steam. I got out of the carriage on to the platform. The train had been half cut before the collision took place. I did not feel hurt for a little while, under the excitement, I suppose, but then I got this awful pain across the back. I got out, I only ran a few yards, and then I fell. I had to get up again, and shouting and shouting was dreadful. I have never witnessed anything like the scene before. When the people shouted "Hold hard!" I put my feet against the seat opposite, and as it happened I was the only one hurt in my carriage. When the breakdown gang arrived, it was ascertained that the Enfield engine was not so badly damaged as to prevent its being run to Stratford Works. It looked more damaged than it really was because of its crushed coal bunker. The driver and stoker were shaken off the engine, which was then left without control. The stoker was burned to a cinder. A workman, a passenger by the Enfield train states that at the rear of the train the shock was strong enough to throw him across the carriage.

A FIFTH DEATH.

George Chaplin, one of the men injured, died at the London Hospital on Friday morning. All the others who were injured are progressing favourably.

THE INQUIRY.

At the Shoreditch Town Hall, Mr. Hodgkinson, deputy coroner for North-east London, opened an inquiry into the deaths of William Withey, aged 61, and Richard Child, aged 15. Enfield Child, a builder's labourer, narrated how he and his son left home together on Tuesday morning. The boy, fearing to be late for business, ran to catch the train, but the father missed it. He followed by a later train, and on reaching Bishopsgate-street heard of the disaster in which his son had been killed. He received "line clear" from the north box man. After the line was cleared witness pulled off the home signal. He could not recollect what he did with the distant signal, as he could not say whether the Enfield train had passed it or not. He passed the Enfield train on to the north box when it had gone by. He received an acknowledgment from the north box man, and then described it to Liverpool-street. Subsequently the rear-guard of the Enfield train came and informed him of the collision. By the Jury. He was not quite certain whether he telegraphed that the day will come when they will succeed in escaping. It is said that they are often assisted by disreputable sailors, who for comparatively small sums place boats at their disposal, and make a living out of these transactions.

ESCAPE FOR PRISONERS.

During a recent trial in Paris, at which the prisoner was condemned to death, a letter was read out in which he had expressed the hope that he would be sent to a penal settlement, as escape was easy. He had been told by a friend who had twice got away from French Guiana that "it would suffice to procure liberty." This had led to some inquiry, and it is now ascertained as a positive fact that numbers of prisoners succeed in effecting their escape, and that it is no unusual thing to see a man in the dock at the Palais de Justice who a few years previously had been sentenced to a long term of hard labour. It appears that these convicts almost invariably return to Paris and resume their old mode of life. Some time ago, when a high official at the Prefecture of Police visited a murderer whose life had been spared, the latter coolly remarked, "You see that one does not always escape from La Nouvelle." "Well, what would you do if you were to regain your freedom?" asked the official. "I should begin again," was the very candid reply of a man whose neck had just been saved from the guillotine. At the Assize Court, too, when prisoners hear that they are condemned to "hard labour for life," they usually maintain a very calm attitude, evidently expecting that the day will come when they will succeed in escaping. It is said that they are often assisted by disreputable sailors, who for comparatively small sums place boats at their disposal, and make a living out of these transactions.

EXPLOSION AT AN ARSENAL.

A disastrous explosion has occurred in the shell-room at the Mare Island Navy Yard, San Francisco. It shook the town like an earthquake. The explosion was immediately followed by the ringing of alarm bells in the Navy Yard, and when the smoke had cleared away it was found that the explosion had taken place in the shell-house of the naval magazine. The burned and charred bodies of two apprentices were found on the beach 200 yards from the scene of the explosion, and in the midst of the ruins and all around on the hill sides could be seen fragments of men's bodies. When the remains were collected it was found that twelve men had been killed outright. Three more, shockingly injured, were taken to the hospital in a dying condition. It is not known how the explosion occurred. A working party of fifteen men from the cruiser Boston, which was in the stone dock near by, had been sent to prepare ammunition to fit shells for the ship. All were at work in the magazine, when it is supposed that some one dropped a shell, which caused the explosion. The body of Acting-gunner Hittinger was found on the top of the shell-house, having been blown through the roof. Doctors from the Navy Yard were soon on the scene, attending to the wounded; while the crew of the Boston, under the direction of their officers, collected the remains of those who were killed.

A FAKEER IN IRONS.

The Indian papers report that a fakeer, wearing more than 1 cwt. of iron chains and bands, recently left the cantonment station at Meerut. The railway authorities refused to permit him to proceed as a passenger, but notwithstanding his contention that women were never charged for their anklets and bangles. The iron, it is said, absorbed the heat so much that the old man had to be incessantly sprinkled with water. He nearly died at the station.

A DANGEROUS WOMAN.

At the Lambeth Police Court, Charlotte Charlton, an elderly woman, was charged before Mr. Birrell with being drunk and disorderly in the Kennington-road.—P.C. 208 L said the prisoner was making a great disturbance and using obscene language, and he was obliged to take her into custody. Mr. H. J. Sydney, solicitor to the South London Sydney Victuallers' Society, now stated that there was a summons against the prisoner for using threats towards Mr. Rush, manager to Mr. German, landlord of the Tandoor Tavern, Kennington-road. She was a most violent and dangerous woman, and had on four or five occasions smashed windows at Mr. German's house, for which she had been sent to prison. A few days back, upon leaving gaol, she went to the house and with a brick attempted to smash a plate-glass window. Mr. Rush set up his hand to her and prevented her doing so, upon which with an oath she declared she would throw vitriol upon him. She had before carried this fluid about with her, and the complainant went in fear of her. Witnesses were called bearing out the statement of Mr. Sydney, upon which Mr. Birrell ordered her to find two sureties in £25 each to keep the peace for six months, or in default be imprisoned for two months' hard labour.

COLLAPSE OF A BRIDGE.

An appalling disaster has occurred on the Licking River, a short distance above the point where it flows into the Ohio. A bridge which was to connect the towns of Covington and Newport, and which was to have been opened for traffic at an early date, collapsed without a moment's warning, and fell into the river, carrying with it all the workmen who were upon it at the time. The loss of life has not yet been ascertained, but one report estimates that no fewer than thirty-eight persons who were on the bridge when it gave way. It is believed that a large number of women were engaged in pushing forward the completion of the structure. They were under the personal direction of the contractors, Messrs. Robert and William Baird. The particular operation in progress was that of placing in position the heavy iron work of the main spans. Suddenly, above all the noise of hammering and machinery in motion, a loud cracking sound was heard, the entire structure swayed from side to side for an instant, and then collapsed, plunging headlong into the swollen river, 80ft. below, in a confused mass of broken timbers and iron-work. There was no time for any one to escape, nor did many of those who were precipitated into the water among the tangled wood and iron reappear upon the surface of the impetuous river. The majority of them it is believed must have been crushed. Eighteen bodies have so far been brought ashore. They were carried through crowds of frantic men, women, and children, who feared to identify in each corpse that of a friend or relative. Mr. Robert Baird, one of the contractors, is among the dead, and his brother William was so severely injured by falling material that he is not expected to recover. Five other men also sustained injuries which are certain to be fatal. With regard to the cause of the disaster, it is believed that the recent floods had washed away the earth which surrounded the supports of the structure as to finally sap the foundations. It is reported that the force of the current had of late caused the contractors some anxiety. The lives of all the men who have perished were insured, the firm having taken out policies on their behalf in the Employers' Insurance Company, for sums which will probably average £5,000 each. The firm of Baird Brothers consisted of four gentlemen, of whom two, those mentioned above, have lost their lives. Mr. William Baird having

"THE PEOPLE" MIXTURE.

In London, last week, twelve persons committed suicide.

Different forms of violence caused seventy-two deaths in London last week.

There were 132 deaths from measles in the metropolis last week. This is nearly double the corrected average.

Great Britain imported over 14,000,000 pounds of canned vegetables from France in 1890.

Steers landed at Liverpool last week 5,753 head of cattle and 22,314 quarters of beef.

Embossed books for the use of blind persons have been prepared in more than 250 languages and dialects.

Count Leo Tolstol, the Russian poet and novelist, can handle farm implements as well as the pen, and is, withal, a skilful shoemaker.

Twin brothers, residing in Indiana, celebrated their 8th birthday a few days ago. They married twin sisters, who are now 73 years old.

The heat has been so intense in Philadelphia lately that four persons succumbed on our day last week to apoplexy attributed to it.

The Queen has been pleased to approve the appointment of the Hon. Mr. Justice A. L. Smith to be a Lord Justice of the Court of Appeal, in the room of the Right Hon. Sir Edward Fry, resigned.

The Boston waiters have won a victory over their employers, who threatened to discharge them if they did not shave clean. They retain their places and their moustaches.

The general election in Belgium took place on Tuesday. There were serious disturbances in several towns. At Ath a number of persons were wounded by sabre cuts in a fight with the mounted police.

Two boys climbed a tree in a village in South Dakota a few days ago to rob a bird's nest. Lightning struck the tree, and one of the boys fell to the ground dead, while the clothes of the other caught fire, and he was so badly burnt that it is expected he will die.

Mr. Arthur Wellesley Peel, a grandson of Sir Robert, is making a flying trip across the continent from San Francisco. He informed a St. Louis reporter that "the labouring classes are more courteous than the wealthy in America, and that American cooking is 'boastful'."

The umbrella is undoubtedly of much antiquity. It appears in various forms upon the sculptured monuments of Egypt, Assyria, Greece, and Rome, and in hot countries it has been used since the dawn of history as a sun-shade—a use signified by its name, derived from the Latin *umbra*, a shade.

Politics do not apparently trouble the Italian mind much. We are assured by a Rome correspondent that of more than 31,000,000 of Italians only about 2,800,000 are electors, and that only about 1,500,000 usually care to make use of their electoral rights.

The London County Council, at its sitting on Tuesday, resolved that "subject to the Hackney District Board entering into an agreement to contribute £15,000, and to the Lord of the manor contributing £5,000, and to £5,000 being raised from other sources, the council do purchase Hackney Marsh for the sum of £75,000."

The £10,000 on account of the Chicago exhibition, voted in the Supplementary Estimates, is only a portion of the proposed vote. It was originally intended that the grant should be £22,000, towards which £10,000 was voted last year, and £10,000 in the ordinary estimates of the present session. £20,000 remains to be voted next year.

Mr. T. Harrington, M.P., speaking at a meeting of the National League in Dublin said the Independent party had made offers of peace but they were rejected, and now there should be no more talk of peace. He appealed to the Parnellites to make it hot in every sense of the word for their opponent during the general election.

Between the 1st April and the 11th inst. the total receipt into the Exchequer amounted to £16,176,383, as compared with £17,052,916 in the corresponding period of the previous year; and the expenditure to £17,279,982, as against £16,635,328. On the 11th inst. the Treasury balance stood at £3,169,257, and on the same day in the previous year at £5,200,182.

Speaking on the Eight Hours Question at Poplar, Mr. Sydney Burton, M.P., saw no reason why Parliament should not pass a measure of "trade option," enabling the workers of a particular trade, if they clearly desired it, to call in the aid of the law to fix the maximum number of hours of work in that industry.

Pliny, the great naturalist, who lived at about the time of Christ, reckoned the whole number of known species of fish at ninety. Svennianus, the great Swedish investigator of the 18th century, could classify 478, and he is known to have been the greatest ichthyologist of the age in which he lived. Now, since the expedition of the Challenger and others, 13,000 species appear in the catalogue of the fish specialists.

A committee of the House of Commons has passed the omnibus bill of the London, Brighton and South Coast Railway Company in the form in which it received the sanction of the House of Lords. Under this bill the company is empowered to widen their main line at Croydon and to reconstruct and enlarge East Croydon Station. The bill also deals with widening at Cuckfield Junction, and sanctions similar alterations of the line at St. Leonards.

The office of record keeper is one of much importance. Included in the documents in his custody are registers of wills from 1343, and original wills from 1384, besides books and papers of other kinds that date from centuries back. An every will is recorded in the ponderous registers in this department, may be counted by thousands; and as, again, every fact relating to a grant of probate or administration is duly noted, another mass of volumes is being accumulated from one generation to another.

Sherry has had its day. Our consul in Cadiz reports that the trade in this once flourishing article of export for British consumption is now in a rather bad way. It is thought, moreover, that Madeira is likely to share the same fate, the taste for strong wines being greatly on the decrease. The Spanish Government has just appointed a commission to endeavour to check the adulteration of Spanish wines, but it is stated that such powerful influence is being exerted on Senor Canovas that the commission will probably be dissolved or its powers so restricted as to be useless.

A serious fire occurred on Monday at the Liverpool Docks. The site of the outbreak was a large shed at the south end of Harrison's dock, in which cotton and other produce were stored. Steam fire-engines from the corporation fire stations and two floating engines belonging to the Dock Board were brought into play, more than a dozen jets playing on the burning mass, but still the flames spread rapidly, and in a short time the roof over three sections of the shed fell in. At the stage, however, its further progress was stopped. There were about 3,000 bales of

cotton and 11,000 tierces of lard involved, and the damage is estimated at fully £25,000.

Lord Muskerry has been appointed a representative peer for Ireland, to sit in the room of the late Lord Castlemaine.

It is announced from St. Petersburg that the Russian Government has approved Baron Hirsch's scheme for the emigration of 350,000 Jews in twenty-five years.

Intelligence from Newfoundland states that the French fishermen are violating the modus vivendi, and have destroyed over 300 lobster traps belonging to British subjects.

The National Library in Washington contains 760,000 bound volumes and 200,000 pamphlets. The yearly increase is from 5,000 to 20,000 volumes, and the new building, which will be completed in four years, is to be capable of holding 4,000,000 books.

Edward J. Stargardt, the well-known antiquarian bookseller of Berlin, has in his possession the original letters of Goethe to Charlotte von Stein, which were printed in Adolf Schill's edition in 1883. The letters number 1,743 in all, extending from the year 1770 to 1829.

Oriental students will regret the retirement of Dr. Reinhold Rost from the librarianship at the India Office, which will, it is said, shortly take place. By birth a German, Dr. Rost has been in England for over forty years holding during the whole of that period a position in the first rank of Oriental scholars.

The rebuilding of the Dorset village of Handley is proceeding apace, but the villagers are still camping out in Government bell tents. In response to the vicar's appeal, about £1,500 has been sent, besides a large amount of clothing, which has come from all parts of the country.

At Kingston-on-Thames, a costermonger, named Charles Ten, alias Purnell, was sentenced to three months' imprisonment with hard labour for cruelly ill-treating a donkey by kicking it on the stomach and on the ribs and mouth on Whitson Monday. The unfortunate animal was severely bruised, and its tongue was cut.

An enormous profit is made in some of the saloons of our mail steamers on sherry. Consul Henderson, of Cadiz, is responsible for the statement that sherry is manufactured in Spain for one of the largest mail steamship companies in the world at the rate of 4d. per bottle, and retailed to their passengers at 2s.

A valuable Rembrandt, painted in 1662, has just been discovered. It hangs in the Stockholm Museum, and has for its subject the chief of the Batavians, Civilis, opposing the Romans, whom, some years before the Christian era, he drove out of Holland. Herr Goethe, the curator of the museum, has only just discovered that it is a Rembrandt.

The collection of arms in the great hall at Warwick Castle, where the Prince of Wales will stay on the occasion of his visit to the Royal Agricultural Show next week, is one of the finest in the country, and amongst the curiosities are a leg-piece and gauntlet supposed to have been worn by the young Prince Edward, son of Henry VI.

An Indian fakir, wearing nearly five pounds of iron chains and bands on his body, has killed her 15-months-old sister by dashing out her brains and breaking her neck. A few days previously, says a Philadelphia paper, she had chopped off several of the baby's fingers and toes with a hatchet.

The Lord Mayor, who was accompanied by a great many members of the corporation, opened the new vegetable, fruit, and flower market, which has been erected at the junction of Farringdon-road and Charterhouse-street. It has cost £70,000, exclusive of the site.

A meeting has been held in the college hall, Westminster, the Bishop of London presiding, at which a committee was appointed to take steps for providing a memorial of Dr. Arnold in the abbey, a site for which had been granted by the dean between the busts of Wordsworth and Keble.

Burglars entered the other morning through a back window the jewellery shop recently opened by Mr. Goldstein, of Oxford-street, in the new Electric Avenue at Brixton. They succeeded in carrying off between £150 and £200 worth of gold and silver watches and brooches.

The Socialist Municipal Councils of Montlucon and Commeny threaten to reduce or even abolish the police. The Government has at present no power to veto such measures in towns with less than 40,000 inhabitants, but it will, if necessary, provide a police force at the expense of the State.

By ballot the Northumbrian miners have decided in favor of giving from their funds £20,000 to the Durham miners and £1,000 to the Cleveland ironstone miners to help them after their strike. A gift of £1,000 was previously made to the Durham men, in addition to a weekly levy while the strike continued.

Six hundred miners employed at the Acremont and Baxendale coal pits of Messrs. Geo. Hargraves and Co. struck work on Tuesday, because of the firm's refusal to reinstate men whose places at their Rosedale pits were filled by others during the miners' general holiday week.

Charles Alfred Millman, secretary of the Gas Workers' Union, has, at Plymouth, been fined 10s. and costs for infringement of by-laws by attempting to hold a public meeting in the bull ring on the Hoe. The town clerk, who prosecuted, did not press for a conviction in a similar case against William John Anderson, and the charge was dismissed.

During the discussion, at the Memorial Hall, of the election manifesto of the London Nonconformist Council, Mr. Thomas Q.C. moved to omit the phrase referring to the "extension of 'national self-government'" from the clause advocating improvements in local administration, and on his proposal being rejected, he announced that he felt obliged to resign his membership of the council. The appeal was adopted, with a few amendments.

The charges against several persons indicted for riotous assembly and obstruction in connection with the meetings recently held at the World's End, Chelsea, were last month fixed for hearing at the present North London Sessions, Clerkenwell, before Sir Peter Edlin. No mention of them has, however, been made, and it is understood that the trial will be adjourned.

Mr. William John Davy, farmer, of Heckington, was at Sleaford Petty Sessions, charged with an offence under the foot and mouth disease orders, by moving twenty sheep from Bexley Heath, Kent, into Lincolnshire, without a license. The defendant pleaded that he had taken every precaution, but the magistrate held that he must have known that a movement license was necessary, and imposed a fine of 40s. and costs.

Half a century ago the "unwholesome Metidjia," as General Duvivier called that great tract of country in Algeria, was a centre of disease and death, and the domain of jackals and Arab bandits. Now it is described as one of the most prosperous parts of Algeria and of the world. Old inhabitants still remember the days when they worked with their feet in marshes, and in fear of the guns of concealed brigands. Between 1838 and 1841, in the single village of Bouarick, thirty-six colonists were killed by the enemy, and thirty-eight were carried off, most of whom ended their days in horrible captivity.

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cotton and 11,000 tierces of lard involved, and the damage is estimated at fully £25,000.

The Duke of Cambridge presided at the annual meeting of the friends of the Gordon Boys' Home, and warmly commended the objects of that institution and the successful manner in which it had been conducted.

It is officially announced that the Queen will visit Aldershot on the 29th inst., and that after a grand review her Majesty will lay the foundation-stone at the new Camp Church.

Mr. John Dickson, proprietor of the Swan and Mumble Railway, died at Mumbles, aged 87. The deceased was contractor for the Shrewsbury and Birmingham Railway and several branch railways in South Wales.

Edward J. Drew sends another instance of how a constable saved a life. A boy fell into a highgate pond, and was just sinking unconscious when a policeman dived in, rescued him, and restored animation.

Is there to be another meeting of the Emperor? St. Petersburg advises say there is.

We are told that the Kaiser will return to the Czar's visit during the imperial hunting season near Skierievic in Poland.

Mr. Cochrane Patrick, the permanent secretary at the Scotch Office, has never recovered the blow occasioned by the loss of his only son a few months ago. Acting under medical advice he has resigned his post.

It is stated that the British East Africa Company have no alternative but to stop their expenditure in Uganda, and, therefore, are obliged to withdraw from the country. They are bound by contract, however, to remain there until December.

Fresh light is said to have been thrown on various facts connected with the blowing up of Véry's Restaurant in Paris, and an important clue has been obtained which may lead to the discovery of the perpetrators of the crime.

The Bishop of Winchester preached to the inmates of Barnham Workhouse on Sunday. This, it is believed, is the first time on which a prelate of the see of St. Swithin has taken part in divine service in a pauper establishment.

An octopus has just been captured off Old Town, near Tacoma. The creature weighed over 60lb. and had arms 3ft. 8in. in length. On each of its eight tentacles or arms there were 320 suckers, making a grand total of 2,560.

It is stated that recently a picture in the Salon in the Champs Elysées was cut from the frame by the artist, M. Carl Rosa, and carried away by him, he being induced to take this step from his sense of the neglect of the jury of awards for landscape painting.

A coloured girl in Kentucky, 6 years of age, has killed her 15-months-old sister by dashing out her brains and breaking her neck. A few days previously, says a Philadelphia paper, she had chopped off several of the baby's fingers and toes with a hatchet.

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The Speaker's full-dress dinner to the clerks and other officers of the House, which marks the close of every session, is fixed for Saturday, the 23rd inst.

Education without religion will not," says the Bishop of Liverpool, "succeed in this country. Education without reference to God and a future life is almost as bad as no education at all."

Signor Giolitti, the Italian Prime Minister, prides himself upon despising the mandates of fashion, and wears at all times an old-fashioned rusty black frock coat that reaches nearly to his ankles.

Count Herbert Bismarck's wedding is becoming an important subject in Vienna.

The unexpected chance of seeing Prince Bismarck in the streets of the Austrian capital excites the minds of many, and the wedding will not be a quiet affair.

The military trial of the murderers of M.

Beltzsch, the late Bulgarian Minister, will be next week. The court-martial will be composed of Lieut.-col. Twardowski, president, and Majors Andrzej and Kolitzsch as assessors.

Steel burglar-proof cars are being built for use on American railways in the Far West, where train robberies are frequent. The outside shell encloses a strong steel room, which in its turn contains a safe for extra valuable property.

The title of prince is almost as common in Russia as is that of colonel in America. An American journal assures us that a Prince Solikof is a market-house porter in Moscow, and a Princess Galitzin is an equestrienne in a cheap circus.

Preparations have been made in the Paris hospitals to have separate wards for cholera patients.

The malady has broken out at St. Denis and its neighbourhood. Two persons

have died of it on Monday, and the death returns show that there have been a good many other well-authenticated cases.

Through a light being carelessly thrown down, the premises of Mr. G. Cristal, tailor, at 51, Albany-street, Regent's Park, caught fire at a quarter to 11 o'clock on Tuesday night, and the shop and the contents were nearly burnt out, and the rest of the house

of twelve rooms, and the contents badly

damaged by fire, heat, smoke, and water.

At a quarter past 4 o'clock on Wednesday

morning a fire was discovered at 50, Salisbury-street, Bermondsey, upon the premises of Mr. J. D. Swain, beer-shop-keeper. The brigade were called to the scene by the fire alarm to beat the bar and bar parlour in flames, and although a hydrant was got to work promptly, the premises were very

greatly damaged. The cause is unknown.

Madame

TURF, FIELD, AND RIVER.
BY LARRY LYNX.

Books of that article should remember that the opinions of the public expressed therein are given upon the relative merits of the horses, and not upon the merits of the men who ride them. All lots on account of the number of horses backed. Miss Dollar developed into a raging hot favourite, and the ridiculously short price of 5 to 1 was eventually accepted about her in a field of twenty-five. Next to her, Cattleshorne, Prince Hampton, and Ponsione were best backed. The last-named started a 100 to 9 chance, while his stable companion, Suspender, was but little backed at 25s. The result of the race shows how careful people should be to avoid burning their fingers over Jewitt's horses in a race on the hard ground. St. Damien carried too many guns for Gouverneur in the Hardwick Stakes, and possibly we have been too ready to acknowledge the superiority of the French form. Enniskillen polished off his field in the High Weight Plate, and when May Duke had won the Thirty-ninth Triennial the curtain fell on another memorable Ascot, and so my story of the most fashionable racing function of the year is at an end.

Ascot was not seen at its bravest and best on the opening day. The optimists tried to view the peasant through rosy spectacles, but with a cold wind searching through the marrow of one's bones, with a leaden sky overhead, and the majority of the dainty costumes of the ladies in the stands and on the lawns concealed by wintry wraps, and even by checks of sable and other furs, it was hard to believe we were assisting in the greatest summer racing fete in the world. The air bit with winter keenness, as the chill blasts swept over the heath with an unkindness that almost savoured of that degree of severity which the Swan of Avon compared to man's ingratitude. It seemed that some evil spirit had prevailed and had given us Ascot in blustering boisterous March instead of in lady June. Then, too, amidst all the scenes of gaiety and feasting and making merry on drives and coaches, and in hospitable mansions, and under the trees at the back of the stand, one could not but see that the shadow of the national sorrow had not entirely been taken from us. The Duke of Cambridge and Prince Christian were present, it is true, but the empty royal stand, with its closed blinds stared us sadly in the face, and reminded us of the bright young prince who, in company with his illustrious father and mother, rejoiced with the people at Ascot last year.

So far as sport was concerned, the first day's programme offered a complete embarrassment of riches. No horse of a century was seen under silk, no Derby or Oaks' winner graced the racing by their presence, but we saw probably the best two-year-old in England, Milford, under silk, and, what is more, we saw him snatch victory in the Coventry Stakes from the speedy French Marly, just when it seemed within the grasp of the representative of La Belle France. Also we had on view, with a few exceptions, the pick of our equine flock in training. If Ascot was not true to its traditions in the matter of weather and programme on Tuesday, it kept up its reputation for backers' shams and quickands, as of the seven first favourites two only, Milford and Buckingham, both odds on chances, got home.

Disasters began with the opening race, in which Golden Garter was, on the strength of his having the best of the weights, made a better favourite than Tostig, who looked as handsome a pair as went down to the post. To this pair the race was confined when they were abreast of the Spagniotti board, and Tostig, who seems to have mended his manners with the march of time, getting the better of the struggle in the last few strides, secured a comfortable half-length victory.

Ascot was worthy of its legends on the Gold Cup day. The recreant sun again did little to enliven the scene, and grey, fleecy clouds once more set his solar projects at defiance. Still, the temperature was warm, and the hurdlers, hurling defiance at Jupiter Pluvius, did not fear to cast aside wraps and cloaks, and display to the best advantage those triumphs of the milliners' art which one always expects to see associated with Ascot pageantry. The scenes on the lawn and in the paddock were rich in startling colours, and brilliant buttercup-yellow and flaring poppy red contrasted with fleecy whites and creams, and the more neutral shades of heliotrope, blue, green, and other colours, toned down by black lace and gauzy materials. Although Ascot was true to its name on Thursday, sport was very tame. To begin with, a trio did battle in the Thirtieth New Biennial, and of these, Lorette, the chosen of the talent, got kicked badly on the jabs by Master of the Horse at the post—so badly that the punch was taken out of her. Lady Caroline made the running, and Chalonier, taking matters leisurely on Mr. Milner's filly, Moray Cannon took in affairs at the start, and riding Master of the Horse for all he knew, landed him a short head winner.

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A MURDEROUS ATTACK.

A weaver named Brindle was charged, at the Blackburne Police Court with attempting to murder his wife.—Prisoner came out of Preston Gaol after serving several months imprisonment for assaulting his wife. He presented himself at her residence after midnight, and demanded admittance, but being refused he broke through the kitchen window and ran upstairs shouting, "Now, off goes your head." At the same time brandishing a knife. Mr. Brindle struggled with him, and got away after receiving several stab in her head and neck, but the prisoner chased her round the house, making more stab at her as she went. The chief constable stated that the prisoner inflicted no fewer than eight wounds on his wife's face and arms, while he held her down with his knee on the bed-room floor. On being arrested Brindle said he was sorry he had not finished his bidding. "Revenge is sweet." In answer to the charge, he now said he was drunk, and did not know what he was doing.—He was remanded for a week.

AN ACQUITTAL.

At the London Sessions, Ellen Davies was indicted for having unlawfully obtained from David William Marpole, solicitor, of Chancery-lane, the sum of £500, by means of false pretences.—The charge against the prisoner was that on March 24th she came to prosecutor's office and stated that she had an introduction from a client of the name of Jenkins, of Middleton-street, Clerkenwell, at the same time showing a bill-head with Mr. Jenkins's name printed thereon, and prosecutor's name and address written on the back. Prisoner then handed in a letter purporting to have been written by her sister in Australia, informing her of the death of an uncle who had left her a large sum of money. He took her instructions to write to the solicitors of her uncle's estate in Australia, and then she informed him she had received a draft for £25, which was at the bank, and the letter of credit had not been received. On the strength of this representation he advanced her £210s, but it subsequently transpired she had given a false address and there was no such draft as that referred to. Prisoner was not arrested until May 23rd at Guildford, and when on her way to London, in charge of Det. Tremblett, she said, "All solicitors are thieves, and ruin me. I do not see why I should not have something out of them, for they can afford it."—On the conclusion of the case for the prosecution Mr. Warry held there was not sufficient legal evidence to go to the jury, who thereupon returned a verdict of not guilty.

RUSTY RIFLES v. REMINGTONS.

A despatch from Tangier says:—The Bashas is making active preparations for a regular campaign against the rebel tribes in Andalusia. A call for volunteers has been issued, but the arming of the force meets with the greatest difficulties, rusty Martini rifles being all that are available for the purpose. The rebel tribes, on the other hand, are well aware of the seriousness of the struggle to come, and seem simply provided with serviceable Remington rifles. At the same time they are seeking the intervention of the European Powers, and have, it is rumoured, asked the Spanish governor of Ceuta for protection against the regular troops, which are steadily advancing and pitilessly exact full payment of all arrears of taxes. The Bashas has notified the rebels that hostilities will cease as soon as the head of Hamam, their chief, is presented to him. Hundreds of women and children have arrived here flying before the danger.

Five Presbyterian pulpits are now vacant in London, including Regent-square, Marylebone, Willesden, and Haverstock Hill.

NOTICE.

To avoid loss of time and inconvenience, all communications on business matters should be addressed to the MANAGER, and not to the EDITOR.

PERSONAL.

TO TOMSON.
RECEIVED letter, Will forgive and forget the R. post, come to 73, Brightmore, Moseley.

H. G. W. A.

SORRY to write to you by now. Will send letter the 26th; will say when I can see you.

PARKER-VINCENT.

THE Relatives of Sophia Vincent, daughter of Parker-Vincent, deceased, will be pleased to hear of something to their advantage on applying to Mr. Parker-Vincent, 26, Bedford-street, London, W.C.

"HUBERT."

A BROWN BRIEF BAG, left on top of glass at London Bridge on Friday morning, June 18th. Owner—Finder will be rewarded by bringing same to Parker-Vincent, & W. Office Court, Fleet-street, E.C.

ATWOODS (OLD-established).

PRIVATE DETECTIVE OFFICES, 6, Catherine-street, Strand, London. Evidence collected for districts of London, & elsewhere. Frauds traced. Reward in all cases. Experienced.

St. Olave's Union.

EMIGRATION NOTICE.

NOTICE is hereby given that the GUARDIANS of the POOR of the ST. OLAVE'S UNION propose to ASSIST in the EXPENSES of EDUCATION & MAINTENANCE of the UNDERDRESSED ORPHAN AND DESERTED CHILDREN, who are now charge of the UNION, to be admitted into the SOUTH METROPOLITAN DISTRICT SCHOOL, SOUTHWARK, LONDON, S.E.

WILLIAM, ESSEX.

NOTICE is hereby given that the UNION, 11 years old, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Hetherington, 10, Queen-street, Strand, London, W.C., has been admitted into the SOUTH METROPOLITAN DISTRICT SCHOOL, SOUTHWARK, LONDON, S.E.

Strand, Albert.

If any of the above-named children be not claimed by their parents within 14 days of this notice, the same will be sent to Canada as provided by law.

By order,

PITT FENTON, Clerk.

Clerk's Office, St. Olave's Union, 10, Queen-street, Strand, London, S.E.

14th June, 1892.

MATRIMONIAL.

GENTLEMAN of position and means, aged 25 to 30, in good health, and in every way a creditable man, wishes to marry should be well informed, with view to marriage, by Address, Mr. W. H. Hetherington, 10, Queen-street, Strand, London, W.C.

GENTLEMAN.

GENTLEMAN, 30, bachelor, good-looking, with good business, wishes to meet young lady who is good-looking, and has a good character. Address to Mr. W. H. Hetherington, 10, Queen-street, Strand, London, W.C.

YOUNG LADY.

YOUNG LADY, dark, good-looking, accompanied by a good governess, would like to hear from young man, who is well educated, and in good health, and in every way a creditable man, wishes to marry should be well informed, with view to marriage, by Address, Mr. W. H. Hetherington, 10, Queen-street, Strand, London, W.C.

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